

## FAMOUS PEDIATRICIAN TAKES THE STAGE

T. BERRY BRAZELTON GAVE HIS ADVICE SATURDAY TO CHILD DEVELOPMENT STUDENTS.

SEE PAGE 4



lavalleystar.com

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## VALLEY COLLEGE FACES POSSIBLE ACCJC SANCTION

A recent trend in accreditation may leave Valley College with sanction after the March 2013 visit by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges.

JENNA BUMGARDNER  
STAFF WRITER

Valley College held an accreditation town hall meeting last Thursday to discuss the March 2013 accreditation the school will be undergoing, but it was unclear by the end of the meeting whether faculty members thought the school would actually be reaccredited or placed on sanction.

The Cafeteria Conference Room was packed with nearly 30 faculty and staff members and a few students on the rainy afternoon with Deborah Kaye, Valley's professional development director, leading the meeting. The town hall gathered the accreditation committee members together to work on Valley's self-study, which will be submitted to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges in March of this academic year.

"We have acknowledged ... that there are a couple of issues that we know we are not at the level the commission has expected us to be," said Vice President of Academic Affairs Karen Daar. "We know that there are deficiencies, and we are addressing [and working] on those. What the results will be, I cannot comment; I do not know."

The self-study is a document that addresses how Valley is meeting the standards the ACCJC expects all community colleges to meet. General themes of the self-study included how Valley

needs to improve communication overall, strengthen the link between planning and resource allocation, address the budget deficit and accelerate Student Learning Outcomes. However, it is these problem areas that may cause Valley to be placed on sanction by the ACCJC for the first time in the school's history.

The sanction would not mean that the school would lose accreditation, but it would be required to submit many follow-up reports and undergo more visits by the ACCJC until the commission is satisfied that Valley has met its standards within a 2-year timeline.

One of the deficiencies that both Daar and Kaye pointed out was the SLOs, which the ACCJC expects to be 100-percent complete. Valley has thousands of classes and is currently at about 50-percent completion on SLOs, which may be an issue in March.

There has also been a trend in recent years for LACCD schools to be placed on sanction such as "warning" or "probation." All but three campuses have been sanctioned, leaving only Valley, Mission and Pierce colleges.

"We have noticed a real difference in the number of colleges in the past ... that have been sanctioned," said Kaye. "[Valley, Mission and Pierce] were not [placed on sanction] because we were last accredited in 2007. Everybody else was more recent, and they were all put on warning or probation. So, that's the problem: expectations are higher."

The only school to lose accreditation entirely in the state of California was Compton College seven years ago due to a mismanagement scandal and corruption probe.

For more information about the ACCJC and the accreditation process, visit [www.accjc.org](http://www.accjc.org).



**BETTER CHOICES** - Valley students can combine any sandwich or salad and a drink at the bookstore for its lunch special, which includes any bag of \$1 chips for free. More expensive chip brands are offered at a reduced price. Students who plan on purchasing the special can come in during store hours.

## LUNCH SPECIAL GIVES STUDENTS ONE-WAY STOP

The bookstore offers a new food special for the fall semester.

DEZIREE MILLER  
STAFF WRITER

Valley College students have a new lunch option this semester on campus at the LAVC Bookstore.

The bookstore lunch combination includes a bag of chips—regularly \$1.00—for free with the purchase of any salad or sandwich and drink. Special K chips and Pop chips will cost an extra 50 cents, and Takis chips are 75 cents.

The bookstore's proximity to the cafeteria, which is just a few

feet away, may leave some wondering why the offer would be so close.

"[The bookstore] has always carried food," explained Associate Vice President of Administrative Services Raul Gonzalez. "We've never had a problem ... It's more options. It's a convenience store operation where they sell candy, sandwiches, drinks, where students can grab stuff."

The former manager of the cafeteria, Mary John—now the assistant bookstore manager—oversees the store.

With the lunch special and the cafeteria close to each other, along with various vending machines around campus, some wonder if it may be a conflict of interest. Both the cafeteria and John declined to

comment on the interest.

However, Gonzalez sees no issue.

"There's no conflict of inter-

**It's more options. It's a convenience store operation where they sell candy, sandwiches, drinks, where students can grab stuff.**

—Raul Gonzalez,  
Valley College vice president of  
Administrative Services

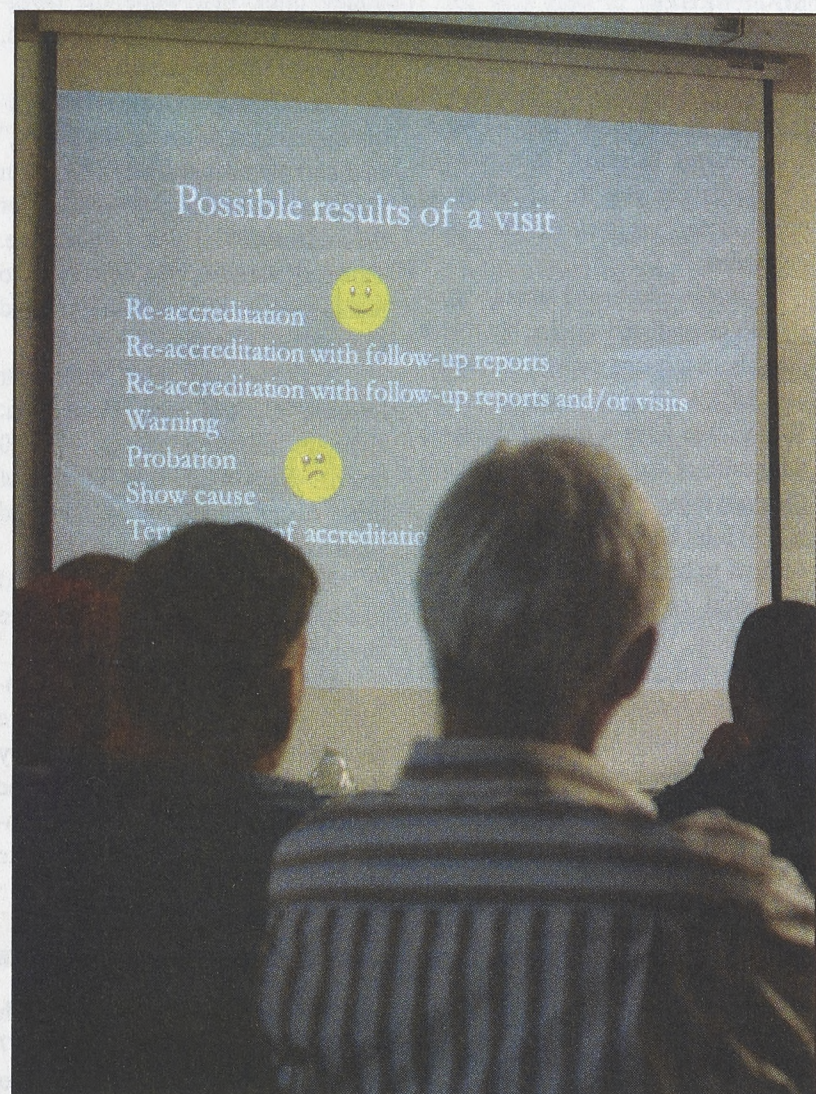
est. Mary John stepped in to run the bookstore after we had the last one retire," said Gonzalez.

But for students already stopping in for materials, the convenience for the lunch special is a factor.

"I haven't tried the new special, but it sounds cheap, and if I'm already there, I would," said English major Gabby Lopez.

There is a selection of beverages and chips to choose from for the special. There are classics such as ham or turkey on wheat for \$2.95, and sub sandwiches are \$3.99. The bookstore also carries a number of snacks and drinks comparable to those found in the cafeteria or vending machines

[See LUNCH, Page 2]



**GETTING BETTER** - Members of the faculty get together at the town hall meeting this past Thursday to see what they need to improve to be an accredited school.

## PROP. 30 HELPS OFFSET CUTS, STUDENTS GAIN WINTER SESSION

California voters approved the proposition, and schools are reaping the benefits.

COURTNEY BASSLER  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Thanks to the passing of Proposition 30, community colleges—including Valley College—will not have to make severe cuts to their campuses.

Proposition 30 was approved by 54 percent of voters last Tuesday to help fund education. According to the Los Angeles Times, State Chancellor Brice W. Harris reported that California community colleges will receive \$210 million, and the Los Angeles Community College District Chancellor Daniel LaVista said that the nine schools avoided a cut of \$30 million.

"Originally [Valley's] budget allocation was going to be \$44 million. Instead, we now expect that it will be \$48 million," said Valley President Sue Carleo about the

money which Valley received from voter approval. "So, we will have had restored our budget by \$4 million."

Due to the \$4-million increase, the school will not have to make cuts that included layoffs, the elimination of a winter session and fewer classes offered for the spring semester. According to a press release the winter session catalog will be out on Nov. 19.

Carleo also explained that all of the costs, including the classes that Valley needs to teach and building maintenance, adds up to \$50 million to the school's budget.

"We still have a \$2-plus-million problem," she said. "The state chancellor did mention some additional funds and what will happen is the state chancellor will adjust the district allocation and the district will adjust the college allocation."

With the passing of the proposition being about a week old, things are still left undetermined. There will be a district allocation meeting today at 1:30 p.m. at the District Office where colleges will find out

more information regarding the funds that will go to each school and whether the nine schools in the district will receive more money.

Carleo also added that, thanks to the funds approved by voters, the college is trying to find ways to help with expanding the library and tutoring hours.

"Prop. 30 really hit home to most of us, and I'm so happy that it passed," said undecided major Destiny Flores. "I'm glad that winter session is going to happen, and having extra tutoring ... will help those in need. I know from experience it is great to have all of the extra resources that I can turn to."

According to the L.A. Times, about 60 percent of voters in Los Angeles County voted in favor of passing Proposition 30, and about 3,000 LACCD students registered to vote on campus. Valley's Political Action Coalition registered 591 students on campus before the Oct. 22 registration deadline.

"All of ... the students have

[See PROP. 30, Page 2]

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The last day to drop a class with a W is Nov. 16 in person and Nov. 18 by Internet.

Valley College will be offering a limited winter session. The five-week session will begin on Jan. 2, 2013. The schedule of classes for the winter will be available on Valley's website Nov. 19, when priority registration begins. Students who want to know when their registration date is can log on to the Los Angeles Community College District Student Information System.



## THE VALLEY STAR INFO &amp; STAFF

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## VALLEY STAR CORRECTIONS

Issue 5's "Valley Students March for 'Walking Debt,' Yes on 30" mentions a "25-percent sales tax increase." That is incorrect. It should be a ".25-percent sales tax increase."

In the special edition, the "California Voters Rejected Prop. 32, Prop. 37," deck is incorrect. It should be "Controversial Prop. 32 was rejected by 1.8 million voters in California."

## ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

## SOCIOLOGY CLUB GIVES BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

VALLEY COLLEGE BIOTECHNICAL STUDENTS COULD HAVE ADVANCEMENT IN JOB TRAINING.

## NEW BROADCASTING MEDIA ARTS CLUB ON CAMPUS

THE NEWLY FORMED CLUB INCORPORATES RADIO, TELEVISION AND FILM STUDENTS.

## BOND'S SKYFALL

CELEBRATING THE JAMES BOND SERIES' 50TH ANNIVERSARY, "SKYFALL" COLLECTED \$400 MILLION WORLDWIDE AT THE BOX OFFICE WITHIN TWO DAYS AFTER ITS U.S. RELEASE.

## VALLEY STUDENTS HAVE BLURRY VIEW OF THE TRANSPARENCY TREND RUNWAYS

THE TRANSPARENCY TREND HITS THE SPRING 2013 RUNWAYS.

## AT VALLEY COLLEGE, "CHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE"

THE LIBRARY AND ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER PRESENTED THE THIRD EXHIBIT IN ITS CULTURE OF PEACE SERIES.



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## PROP. 30

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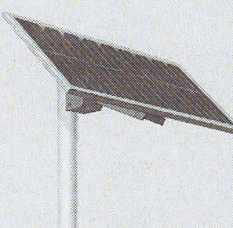
been fantastic during this election," Carleo said. "I think more than any other time in recent history [students] should be proud ... because just in the voter statistics, the 18- to 29-year-old group voted in a much bigger block than what was expected. I think what you can see is that it makes a difference and the issues were real, especially for students ... and I think all of the activities, [from] the debate [to] the voter registrations, paid off."

However, Carleo explained even though community colleges are receiving money from 30, there could be a possible fee increase that would help offset budget cuts. The fee increase would be established by the state and the legislature and is still undetermined.

CUTTING COSTS: WHAT VALLEY IS DOING TO  
SAVE THE CAMPUS FROM A BIGGER DEFICIT

**LIGHTING:** LIGHT EMITTING DIODE BULBS  
AID WITH ELECTRICITY USAGE.

**PAPER:** FIVE YEARS AGO, VALLEY COLLEGE  
LIMITED ITS PAPER USAGE IN EACH CLASS,  
SAVING THE SCHOOL \$20,000.



**SOLAR PANELS:** VALLEY COLLEGE HAS  
SOLAR PANELS IN PARKING LOT D,  
WHICH HELP OFFSET THE BUDGET OF  
MAINTENANCE COSTS.

CAREER/TRANSFER CENTER ASSISTS  
STUDENTS WITH STATE APPLICATIONS

**UC/CSU application workshops help students stay ahead of the application deadlines.**

**ROME MOORE**  
STAFF WRITER

Valley College is a possible gateway to a degree from a four-year institution, even if students aspire to attend one of the numerous Cal State schools or be accepted into the University of California system.

The UC/CSU application workshop at the Career/Transfer Center helps ease the stress of the application process as the deadline draws near on Nov. 30.

Students receive hands-on assistance from representatives—from one of the UCs and one of the Cal State schools—helping them through each part of the application.

Many of the representatives who help also took the same route and come to the Career/Transfer Center to aid students with their personal statements as well as share their experiences of transferring

and how classes are at their new schools.

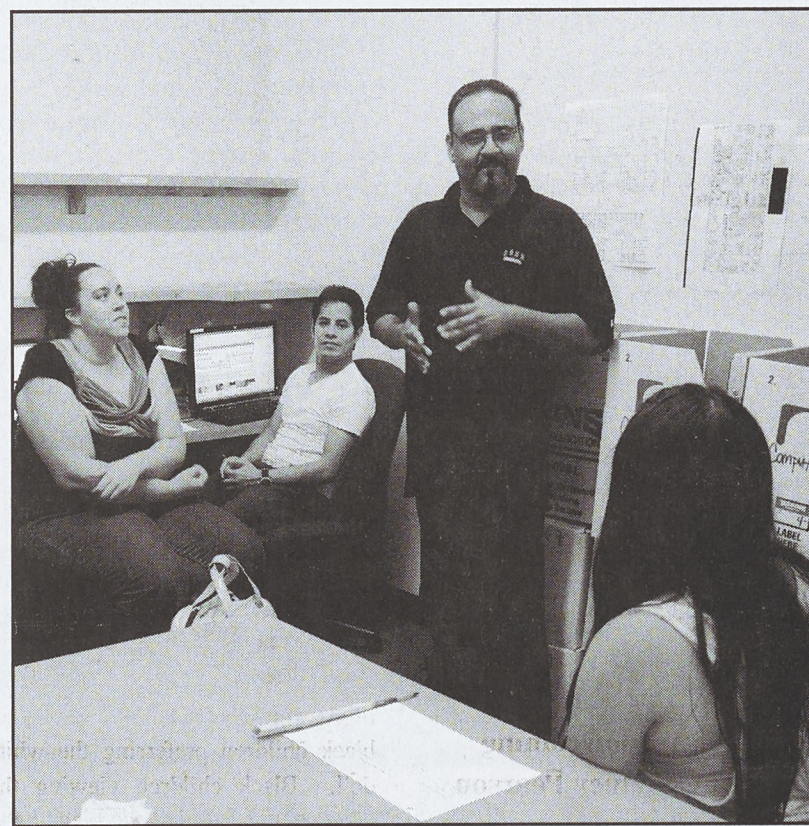
"I was so scared about my personal statement," said UCLA representative Christina St. John. "That's where you really create yourself. The UC application for transfer students isn't just the personal statement, and it's not just the application. It's a combination of both."

St. John also explained how the universities have a different view of transfer students. The schools, according to St. John, expect students to have had more life experiences and that should show through a personal statement.

Valley student Pilipinas Ramos attended the UC application workshop to gain more experience before she sends off her application.

"The program helped me become more informed about transferring and become more involved in school," said Ramos. "It's good to have more information about transferring."

Students hoping to transfer for the 2013-2014 school year need to have the general requirements necessary for their college of choice completed by or during the spring semester.

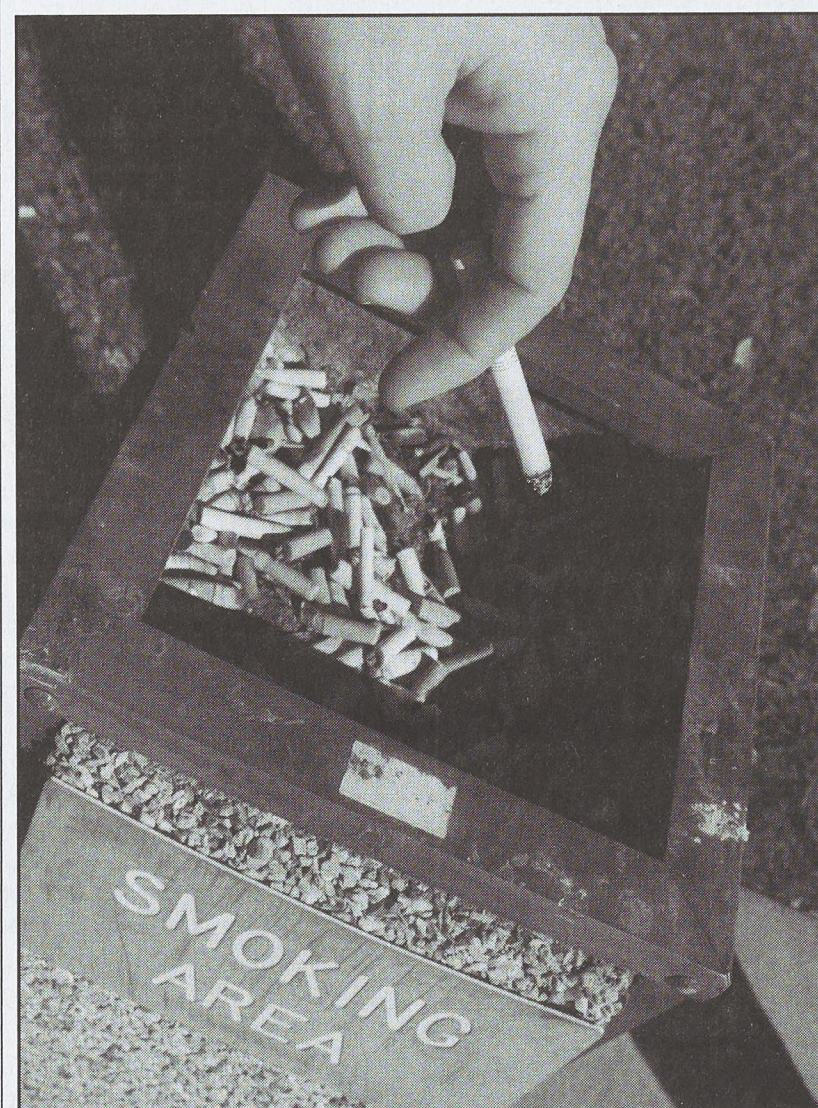


**ASSISTANCE IN APPLYING** - CSUN Outreach Counselor, Jesus Flores holds a workshop Wednesday, Oct. 3, in the Career/Transfer Center to inform students on how to apply to universities and the process they must go through to submit an application to Cal State universities.

The UC application workshops will be held today and Nov. 21 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The CSU application workshop is tomorrow from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

All of the workshops are held at the Career/Transfer Center in the Student Services Annex. The center can also be reached at 818-947-2646.

## UC CAMPUSES MAKE TRANSITION TO BE SMOKE-FREE



**SMOKE-FREE CAMPUS** - Smoke-free campuses are becoming more common, but Valley College is among the few that still allow smoking in designated areas.

**While all UC schools are set to become smoke free by 2014, Valley remains a smoking restricted campus.**

**ASHLEY GOOSSEN**  
STAFF WRITER

On April 22, 2013—which also happens to be Earth Day—UCLA will become the first University of California campus to ban smoking and tobacco, as well as electronic cigarettes.

"We're concerned about exposure to secondhand smoke, but this is also about tobacco-caused diseases," said UCLA nursing professor Linda Sarna. "We have a responsibility to the health of our campus, and this is the right thing to do."

While UCLA is the first UC campus to become smoke-free, more than 800 colleges and universities throughout the country have converted to smoke-free campuses, such as Auburn University, San Francisco State University and the University of Michigan.

Although Valley College is not a smoke-free campus, student smokers are asked to take their cigarettes to any of the eight available des-

ignated smoking areas on campus. Designated smoking areas can be found next to the South Gym, Lot H, the Planetarium, the power plant, the Foreign Language Building, the cafeteria, the Music Building and the softball field.

However, some students at Valley think that while the designated smoking areas are a good idea, they are not very effective.

"A lot of students smoke throughout the campus wherever they want," said communications major William Garcia. "It would be a good thing for the students if Valley was smoke free. That way, students who don't want to inhale smoke while walking around campus don't have to."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cigarette smoking causes 443,000 deaths every year with 49,400 of those being caused by secondhand smoke exposure.

Not everyone at Valley would like to see a change to a smoke-free environment.

"It would be ridiculous if students were not allowed to smoke anywhere on campus," said history major James Moore. "It would be hard to get through the day without being able to have a cigarette between classes."

## LUNCHES

Continued from page 1

around campus. For example, a Snickers bar at the cafeteria is \$1.09; at the bookstore it is \$1.15,

and the vending machine has the bar priced at \$1. Cookies and nuts are available in the bookstore for 75 cents, and crackers and granola bars cost 99 cents. These treats and small meals, such as

a cup of noodles and microwavable burritos, can also be found at all three places: the bookstore, cafeteria and vending machines.

The LAVC Bookstore is located near the Campus Center

and is open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



# EDITOR'S NOTE:

The views expressed on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Valley Star, its instructors, editors, staff or those of Los Angeles Valley College, its administrators, faculty, staff or students.

CUTTING TO THE BONE

## BIC'S "FOR HER" PENS ARE NOT FOR EVERYONE

New pens are at the center of controversy for tapping into gender stereotypes.

DEZIREE MILLER  
STAFF WRITER

Females looking for the perfect writing utensil may be satisfied with Bic's "For Her" pens especially designed to fit their hands, but others concerned about the trend of gender-specific items may not be so satisfied.

The questionable pens have been for sale since 2010. They feature a sleek design with jewel

accents and are available in pink, purple and mint. The pens continue a trend of products marketed to women, such as tools, pepper spray and laptops. These products were simply created in pink in hopes of winning over female consumers.

The pens, however, have gained attention after sarcastic reviews on amazon.com went viral on the web last month, and television host and comedian Ellen DeGeneres was asked to be the product's spokesperson.

One reviewer commented, "We're all joking about this, naturally (a woman using a pen—ridiculous!), but this could have serious implications. What's next, ladies attending universities? Pens

to encourage literacy in the lower orders? The modern world is a mad place indeed."

As the reviewer points out, Bic's "For Her" reiterates silly and archaic stereotypes about genders: that girls shouldn't use the same things as men, and, therefore, that they aren't on the same level as men, but also that pastel hues and jewels are the only way to express femininity.

DeGeneres talked about the controversy on her show and even created a witty spoof.

"They don't come with any instructions, so like, how do they expect us to learn how to write with them, you know?" DeGeneres said. "I was reading the back of the

pack—well, I had a man read the back of the package to me, and it said it's designed to fit a woman's hand ... what does that mean? Like, so when we're taking down dictation from our bosses, we'll feel comfortable, and we'll forget we're not getting paid as much?"

DeGeneres' comments had the same tone and similar content to the outpour of unconvinced skeptics of the product on Amazon, that these pens seem to write out a scene from the past or may distract women from the other inequities that still need to be overcome, like those women see in their workplaces. In fact, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor statistics, the ratio

of women to men's earnings since 1979 finally peaked at 81 percent in 2005.

Fortunately, DeGeneres declined to be involved in any campaign for the product, which, at \$3.97 for a pack of two, costs twice as much as some other non-gender specific pens.

Certainly, there are not any comparable "For Him" pens on the market, nor should there be, in a society that should be pushing for equality and not separation. It should not matter what color of ink or type of pen is used to write the message that women do not want to be pinned down by corporation's narrow, outdated ideas of them.

## COUNSELING SHOULD BE A PRIORITY

With both students and schools struggling, it is essential that they spend their money wisely.

KEVIN JERSEY

Continued cuts to the California education system have been a double-edged sword. For schools, this means that staff has been cut and tuition has gone up. And, these tuition increases mean more students are forced to seek out some kind of financial aid to pay for school.

Although these things are necessary if schools want to provide an education and students want to receive one, it is also necessary to make sure that everyone involved is using their limited funds wisely.

A recent report commissioned by the Institute for College Access & Success and the California Community Colleges Student Financial Aid Administrators Association has examined how students and schools handle financial aid in an effort to help them do so as efficiently and effectively as possible.

Among the most important findings is that most community colleges in the state simply do not have enough staff to handle the needs of their students. Budget cuts have made it virtually impossible to increase the number of people working in financial aid offices at the same time that these cuts have created a higher need for aid among those enrolled at the schools.

Using the report's figures, Valley College had 30,531 students enrolled in 2011. Of those students, 28 percent received some type of federal financial aid—either Pell Grants or Stafford Loans. Many students begin school with no understanding of personal financing or budgets. There is no way to give each of them one-on-one counseling, so Valley, like many other schools, has been forced to put most of its financial aid information online. While this is a good way to provide information to a great number of students, it does not ensure that they understand the information they are getting.

The report also emphasized the need for academic counseling in addition to financial counseling. Many students waste time taking unnecessary classes or changing their major, only to find that their financial aid eligibility has expired before they have earned their degree or met transfer requirements. This is an especially dire situation for those who took out student loans, as graduation rates drop drastically among those who have exhausted the amount they can borrow. These students then find themselves without a degree or job prospects, but with costly loans to repay.

While the responsibility for taking the right classes and completing school on schedule ultimately lies with students, nearly every school said they would like to be able to better assist students in this process. Sadly, budget cuts have made this difficult.

There is reason for optimism. The report has found that a greater number of schools are finding ways to do more with less. Many schools have automated their counseling process, helping students stay on track, or have made financial aid applications available online.

These are steps in the right direction, but they are small steps. The best solution would be to provide funding to allow schools to counsel students on how to obtain financial aid and how to use that aid most effectively.

Email Kevin Jersey at [opinion@lavalleystar.com](mailto:opinion@lavalleystar.com). Send general comments to [valleystar@lavalleystar.com](mailto:valleystar@lavalleystar.com).

## VALLEY VIEW | WOULD YOU PAY MORE MONEY TO BUY PRODUCTS TARGETED TO YOUR GENDER?



"Most of the time, I buy what fits my budget."

-PAULINA DE LA ROSA,  
ART HISTORY



"I buy women's products as a present to give. I buy men's products for myself."

-SAMSON ISRAEL,  
SOCIOLOGY



"Yes, because girl stuff tends to smell better than guy scents."

-MELANIE HERNANDEZ,  
ART



"I'll usually use them if I have the money."

-SAMSON SANDHU,  
COMPUTER SCIENCE



"If it's cute, why not?"

-NATALIE CASTLE,  
MASS COMMUNICATIONS

COMPILED BY FATIMA JIMENEZ | VALLEY STAR

## AN EVOLVING VIEW OF BEAUTY

Ole Miss Homecoming queen Courtney Pearson makes history.

JHANELLE RIVERA  
STAFF WRITER

The American ideal of beauty has always been defined as Caucasian and slim—as evidenced by magazines, commercials and billboards throughout time. The media has brainwashed viewers' minds as to what attractiveness should be. The University of Mississippi, however, defied this outdated ideal and made history by electing its first black homecoming queen.

The crowning of Courtney Pearson, a 21-year-old English major, shocked her classmates because she did not fit the stereotype of American beauty. Not only is her skin chocolate-brown, but she is also a plus-sized woman. She narrowly beat the thin, blond runner-up, proving that beauty comes in all different shades and sizes.

"Beauty is so amazing," said Pearson in a CNN interview. "There's obviously outer beauty, but there's definitely inner beauty as well, and that's so important. And as long as that beauty is shining through, that's the only thing that matters."

It is ridiculous that it took until 2012 for the university to elect a black homecoming queen. But, it is a sign of progress for a school with a notorious history of racism.

Fifty years ago, James Meredith made history by becoming the school's first black student after winning a lawsuit forcing the all-white university to admit him. Now, 16.6 percent of the 16,786 Ole Miss students are black.

Skin color should not determine acceptance in society, but unfortunately it does. The Clark Doll Experiment verified this in 1939. Doctors Mamie and Kenneth Clark gave 300 black children a white doll and a black doll, asking them which doll they liked best. Sixty-three percent of the children said the white doll was nicer.

In 2005, the experiment was repeated by Kiri Davis with 21 children, but the results were even more

disappointing, with 71 percent of black children preferring the white doll. Black children viewing the dolls should feel that the black baby toy is just as beautiful, if not more so. But, images the media show influence minority youth to have a negative self-image.

Since 1939, there have been outstanding changes in America's view of what is considered beautiful. There have been more black women in the media who are portrayed as pretty, such as actresses Halle Berry, Gabrielle Union and Meagan Good, as well as the superstar diva herself, Beyonce. Although progress has been slow, African-American women are starting to be accepted as beautiful by the mainstream.

Race is not the sole factor the media use to determine attractiveness; weight also plays a significant role. Women are bombarded with images of what is considered beautiful, and most of these stress being thin. According to the Department of Mental Health, more than 8 million Americans suffer from an eating disorder trying to achieve this unrealistic and unhealthy goal.

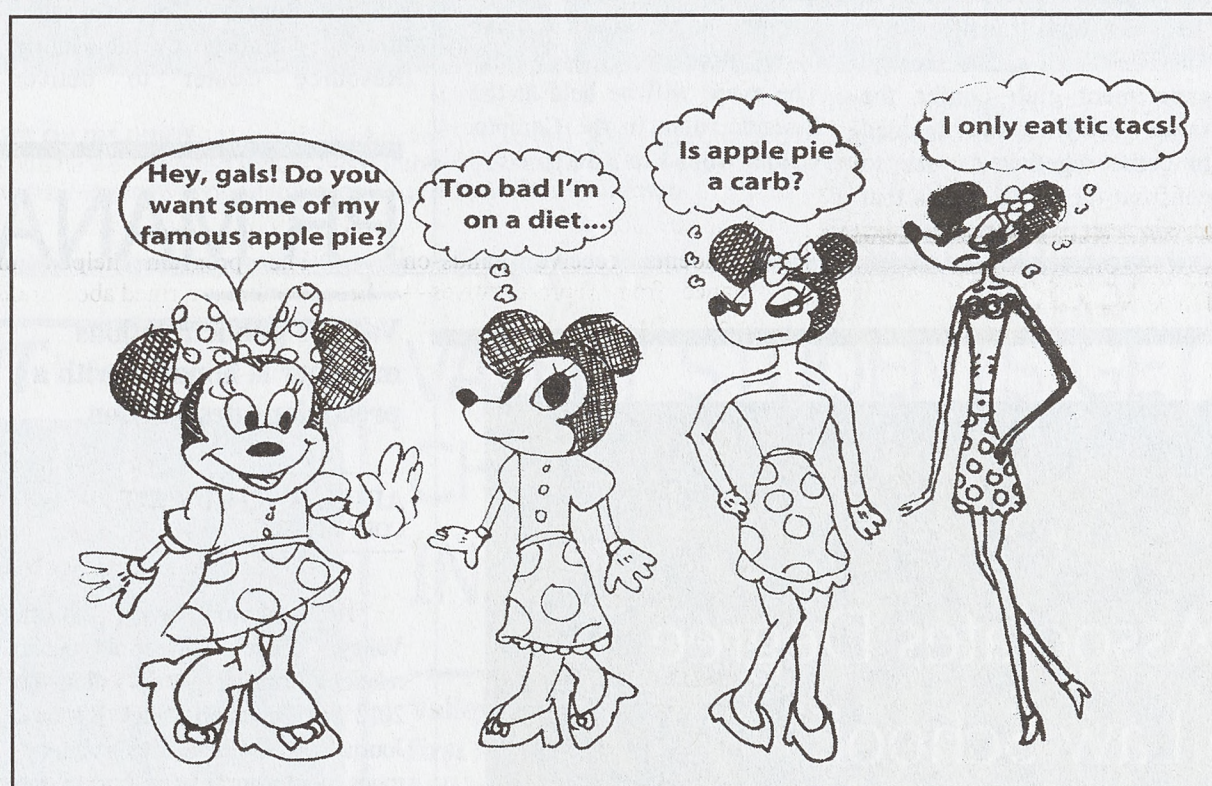
Pearson, black and full-figured, stepped onto the football field at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium to receive her crown, leaving the media second-guessing their views of the American ideal of beauty. At the same time, the University of Mississippi took a step forward.

"We unfortunately cannot change a dark and difficult past," said Pearson, "but we can absolutely change the future."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Letters to the editor can be sent to [editorinchief@lavalleystar.com](mailto:editorinchief@lavalleystar.com) or submitted online at [www.lavalleystar.com](http://www.lavalleystar.com).

Letters must be limited to 300 words and may be edited for content. Full name and contact information must be supplied in order for letters to be printed. Send by Thursday for the following week's issue.



JENNA BUMGARDNER | VALLEY STAR

SKINNY MINNIE - Disney gives its iconic mouse a makeover but sends the wrong message to young women.

## DISNEY'S BLUNDERS MAKE PEOPLE WONDER

Disney tries to make a fashion model out of Minnie and a Latina out of a princess.

DEZIREE MILLER  
STAFF WRITER

The world's favorite female mouse is almost unrecognizable in new displays at Barneys and so is any sign of the heritage of Disney's first Latina princess.

That may be because Minnie Mouse was stretched so thin and tall, and the film, "Sofia the First: Once Upon A Princess" does not include any reference to the princess's roots. These errors certainly impact children, especially girls, whose young, developing minds are Disney's target audience.

As part of Barneys' "Electric Holiday" campaign, Minnie Mouse's short, round frame was slimmed down and stretched to 5'11 after a meeting between Barneys and Disney.

"It never came to my mind that Minnie Mouse was overweight," said Valley College psychology instructor Janet Carney. "This will definitely have an impression on young kids, that they need to be 'skinny Minnie,' that they need to look like models who sometimes starve themselves to death to main-

tain their weight."

Executives from Barneys and Disney explained that Minnie will only appear in her new form momentarily during a dream sequence in a "moving art video," where Minnie walks the Paris runway. But, whether the image is displayed for an hour or for 15 seconds, the damage will be done to young, impressionable girls. The message is clear: they need to change into something else entirely to be fashionable or worthy enough to be a model, and this is something they should dream of, too.

Young Latinas should also not expect to have any Disney princesses like themselves to look up to. While Disney's films have featured princesses of all different ethnicities—Asian, Indian, African-American and Native American—there has never been a Latina princess even though Latinas are the largest ethnic group in the nation. Fans thought this was going to change when Jamie Mitchell, the executive producer of "Sofia the First" answered a question from a blogger about the dark skin color of Princess Sofia's mother by saying, "She is Latina."

As a result, Sofia's appearance has now come under fire because she has auburn hair and blue eyes instead of the dark features of her mother. Traditionally, when Disney has incorporated ethnicities in their

princesses, they seem to attribute very stereotypical appearances to them—which may be a whole other issue in itself. But, they did not do this with Sofia.

"From what I can see about Sofia, she's multi-racial. That many want to identify her as one ethnicity reflects that dynamic in our culture. Since they started diversifying their princesses, they did start acknowledging the different cultural settings, although stereotypically in most cases," said Valley sociology instructor Sally Raskoff.

Disney also usually emphasizes the heritage of its princesses. After all, the appearance of Sofia can be justified, as Latinas come in many different forms. But, to not include anything related to her heritage is wrong. It makes it seem like the Latino culture did not make that cut or was not good enough to be included. As a result of the public's uproar, Disney retracted the statement last month, telling the Huffington Post, "To clarify, no character is Latina in 'Sofia the First.'"

Disney, a company who has been around for almost a century, should not be making these kinds of mistakes that affect children, and their recent blunders when it comes to women's body image and the Latina community are inexcusable.



## LAVC Events

**November  
Wednesday, 14-  
Friday, 16**

**Scholastic Book Fair**  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Child Development and Family  
Complex  
Sponsored by the Child  
Development Department  
818-778-5551  
www.scholastic.com/fair

**Wednesday, 14-  
Saturday, 17**

**"Connectivity: An Evening of  
Short Plays"**  
8 - 10 p.m.  
Horseshoe Theater  
Sponsored by the Theater Arts  
Department  
818-947-2352  
General Admission: \$16  
Students: \$10  
Seniors, Children: \$12

**Thursday, 15**

**BSU Open Mic Night**  
4 - 7 p.m.  
Student Services 245  
Sponsored by the Black  
Student Union club  
818-947-2486

**Friday, 16**

**Astronomy Group Planetarium  
Show**  
8 - 9 p.m.  
Planetarium  
Sponsored by the Earth  
Science Department  
818-947-2864

**Sunday, 18**

**Music Festival**  
1 - 6 p.m.  
Music Recital Hall 106  
Sponsored by the Music  
Teachers Association  
https://www.lavc.edu/music/

**Tuesday, 20**

**"Overcoming Procrastination"  
Workshop**  
1 - 2 p.m.  
Cafeteria Conference Room  
Sponsored by Student  
Psychological Services

## CLUB-SPONSORED "DETOUR" GIVES STUDENTS VOICE

**The BSU and the sociology experiment club unite to confront social issues.**

**JHANELLE RIVERA**  
STAFF WRITER

The Black Student Union and sociology experiment club are presenting their first collaboration Nov. 20. "Detour" will discuss issues regarding racism, gender and racial stereotypes, and sexual harassment that occur on the Monarchs campus.

In advance of the town hall-style event, clubs distributed surveys to students to find out what they are interested in talking and hearing about. The surveys, which can be submitted anonymously, seek to find out how safe minority and marginalized students feel at Valley College.

Fifteen active members from the student union came together to provide cultural and social environments for students and community members. The BSU mission is to encourage a positive image of black people and to support union members to achieve their educational goals.

The BSU and sociology experiment club confer the same problems and decided to come together as one to confront the social issues that

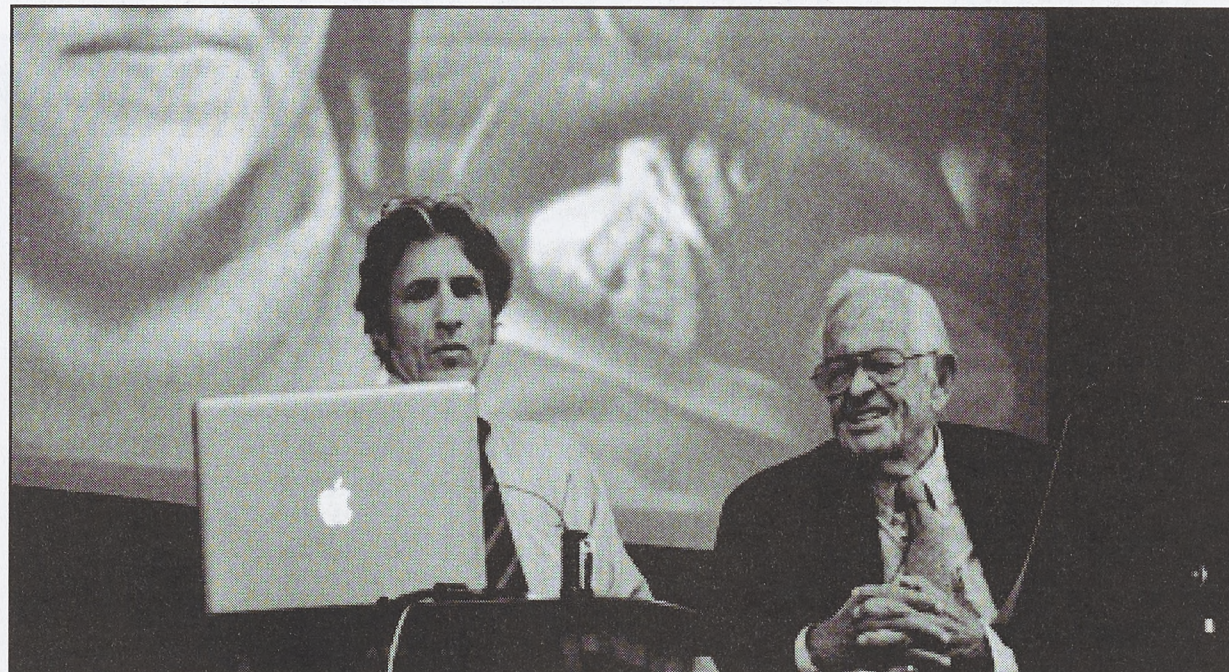
occur on campus.

"Many people in our club—both male and female—had an issue with the sexual harassment and racial profiling that is going around at LAVC, so we felt it was time to address this issue with the school," said BSU President Iesha White.

Alexia Johnson, the president of the sociology experiment club, suspects that racism and sexual harassment exist on campus. She hopes that the "Detour" event will encourage students and faculty to decrease racial profiling and sexual harassment.

"Sexual harassment is a major issue at LAVC—and in general—since we live in a patriarchal society where women are still treated as second-class citizens," said Johnson. "When women on campus feel it is necessary to 'detour' from certain areas on campus to avoid cat-calls and obscene comments, that tells us as sociologists that this is definitely an issue."

Both clubs hope to encourage students to have intellectual conversations. The guest speaker will be part-time Valley instructor and sociologist James McKeever, who intends to educate students about problems they share. The event will be held at the Fireside room in the Campus Center from 1 to 2:30 p.m.



**TOUCHPOINTS** - Child development experts Joshua Sparrow and T. Berry Brazelton speak Saturday in Monarch Hall.

## T. BERRY BRAZELTON SPEAKS TO CHILD DEVELOPMENT STUDENTS

**Valley is host to a well-known pediatrician, author and child development specialist.**

**LAGINA PHILLIPS**  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Renowned child development expert Dr. T. Berry Brazelton addressed a crowded Monarch Hall Saturday, answering questions, showing videos and imparting wisdom the 93-year-old has gathered throughout a seven-decade career.

Brazelton, along with Dr. Joshua Sparrow, was brought to Valley College by the Family Resource Center to deliver

"Touchpoints: Stresses & Supports for Families," a two-hour presentation that aided parents, child development students and community members who paid \$10 a ticket for a workshop that usually costs much more. Following the presentation was a book signing of his latest—and 24th—book, "Touchpoints."

Brazelton, who was also the host of a television program, "What Every Baby Knows," and has a syndicated newspaper column, is widely known for developing the Brazelton Neonatal Behavioral Assessment Scale, which gages a baby's development by how well it exhibits certain abilities at a given age, starting at three weeks.

Among the topics addressed

in the question-and-answer session were homeschooling, which Brazelton discourages because "it isolates a child," and co-sleeping, which he encourages as a bonding tactic between parent and child.

"I think it made [child development students] feel like their chosen field has credibility," said Family Resource Center Director Marni Roosevelt. "He really is the top guy—the top child development expert—in the country."

For more information about "Touchpoints," visit <http://www.touchpointbook.com/>, and for more about Valley's Family Resource Center, visit <http://lavc-frc.tumblr.com/>.

## PR MANAGER RECOGNIZED

**Valley's public relations manager is honored with a prestigious designation.**

**ARIEL WAITKUWEIT**  
COPY EDITOR

Her hard work having paid off, Valley College's 34-year-old public relations manager placed within the 2012 San Fernando Valley Business Journal's 40 Under 40 after an anonymous nominator placed her in the stream of applicants.

"I was actually very, very flattered and honored," award recipient and Public Relations Manager Jennifer Fong-Borucki said. "I don't think of myself as someone to be recognized ... it was flattering to see that what I do for the college is very acknowledged."

The award—which, according to SFVBJ reporter Kelly Goff, is an unranked collection of 40 selected professionals—is given annually to those within the San Fernando Valley

who have influenced their communities and work environments in profound ways.

According to the campus's website, "recipients [are] recognized for the significant role they play in the success of their business, the impact they have on company culture and their involvement in the community."

Fong-Borucki, who has been working at Valley since 2007, was also a SFVBJ 40 Under 40 nominee in 2010. Although she did not place in the top 40 then, she did this year, having competed against more than 100 other nominees.

"They contacted me saying someone had nominated me, and they had me fill out this form," Fong-Borucki said, explaining that nominees are notified by the journal and given an application to fill out in which they answer various questions explaining some background information about themselves, including their career experiences and company contributions.

Remembering her roots, Fong-Borucki explained that

Pierce College's former director of Marketing and Public Relations, Michael Cornner, who retired in 2000, played a huge part in shaping her career path and future.

In the form, Fong-Borucki wrote, "[Cornner] taught me that the key to success is not only meeting people's expectations, but also to exceed them. I wouldn't be where I am today without his support and guidance."

According to Fong-Borucki, Cornner is a mentor who prepared her for the professional realm.

"I basically went to him straight out of college," said Fong-Borucki. "He's actually the one who kind of inspired me to work in public relations in community college."

After her stay at Pierce's Marketing Department, Fong-Borucki worked at Cal State San Bernardino.

"I used to do their public relations for their continuing education and extension classes," she said.

These experiences, along with her non-profit volunteering, helped her place in 2012's top 40.



**40 IS THE NEW 20** - Public Relations Manager Jennifer Fong-Borucki, 34, was chosen as one of the 2012 San Fernando Valley Business Journal's 40 Under 40 for her work serving Valley College and the community.

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and go to Law School.

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☐ Great Idea.

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PROFILE

## MONARCHS LINEBACKER HOPEFUL TO PLAY AT NEXT LEVEL

**A Monarchs starting linebacker hopes to get noticed by a four-year university.**

**RICHARD ROSSI**  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Although the Monarchs struggled this season to win games, 6-foot-2, 220-pound Amir Saleh's connection to his team carried the Northridge native to the highest rating among players.

Football coaches watch game films and grade every player, every game. The rating is based on a system developed by scouts and modified by head coach Larry Kerr. Saleh's success does not surprise Kerr, who believes the sophomore has the skills necessary to go far.

"Amir Saleh is a great team player. He puts the team first. He has played both linebacker and defensive end and graded out to the highest of all our players," Kerr said.

Saleh smiles when told of the coach's compliments and brushes his long, dark hair out of his face. He has a gentle spirit that belies how hard he hits opponents on the gridiron.

"I like the new coach. If we keep working and practicing hard, wins will come," 19-year-old Saleh said.

Saleh has not wasted time making his presence known this season. He began his second season as a Monarch recovering a touchdown six minutes into the first game that resulted in a Monarchs touchdown.

"When I make a big play, I get happy," Saleh said. "I get hyped

with my teammates. We will start doing chest pumps."

Saleh started playing football in high school and was a quick study of the game. He became team captain and City All Star, playing offense and defense equally well.

"My favorite memory was scoring my first touchdown on JV during my sophomore season," Saleh said. "It was the first game. I scored on a tight-end screen pass. It was the first touchdown in high school. I felt great. I remember celebrating with my teammates in the end zone. All I heard was the voices of my teammates."

Saleh is an engineering major and is in his last year at Valley. He hopes to get an offer from a four-year school and is open to speaking with schools that are interested in him.

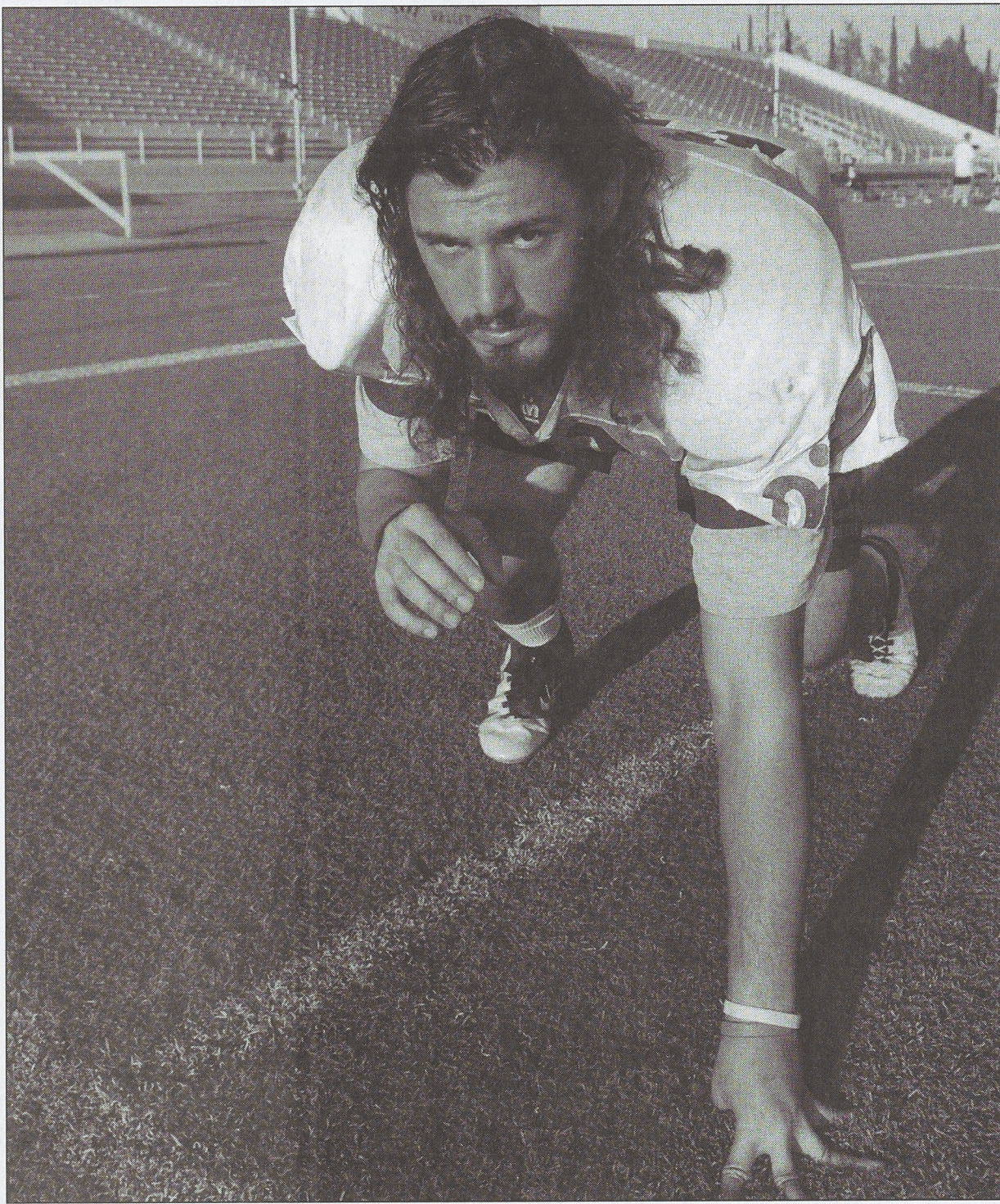
He works out with weights for strength and footwork for speed. It would be his dream come true to play professionally.

His father Fred Saleh works for Burbank High School as a computer technician, and his mother Sharlene Saleh is a librarian at Shepherd of the Hills Church. They stand behind him and his dream to get noticed by a university and continue playing football.

"I hope he's able to keep playing. He loves it," Sharlene Saleh said. "Amir is so disciplined [when it comes to football]."

Saleh accepts his defensive role and the Monarchs' adversities in stride. He hopes for future football opportunities post-Valley, but he is focused on the present.

"He plays with great effort. He is accountable and dependable on and off the field," coach Kerr said.



**EYES ON THE FUTURE** - Monarchs linebacker Amir Saleh hopes to get noticed by a four-year university. His coaches praise his well-rounded skills, sportsmanship and dedication to the sport. Those and other traits earned the 19-year-old the Monarchs' highest rating among his teammates this season.

MORRIS DELA ROCA | VALLEY STAR

THINK IT THROUGH

## BUSSES LEAVE PHIL BEHIND, PICK UP D'ANTONI

**ROMEO GONZALEZ**

Lakers fans were told Saturday there was a 95-percent chance Phil Jackson was coming back to Los Angeles. Before that there was a list of potential coaches that included Jerry Sloan and Mike D'Antoni.

Monday, the Lakers announced that Jim Buss, Jerry Buss and Mitch Kupchak unanimously agreed to hire former Suns coach Mike D'Antoni as the new head coach for the Lakers.

Mike Brown was fired after having the worst record in the Western Conference at the start of the season, destroying the name of a back-to-back title-winning franchise. Shortly after Brown had been let go, fans in Los Angeles were chanting, "We want Phil" as if there was no other choice to bring the team back to further glory.

The Lakers called Jackson Saturday morning, and he met with Lakers owners where they discussed assistant coaches, trainers and players.

Jackson told the team he needed the weekend to think about returning to the franchise where he won five of his NBA titles. Twenty-four hours later, the media was telling everyone Jackson would return, but he was asking for too much.

Angelenos hoped the Lakers would agree to giving Jackson a piece of the team, \$10 to \$15 million a year, and agree to not having him travel with the team on away games.

Of course, the Lakers, being the Lakers, had a plan B just in case Jackson was not up to coaching the team one more time.

According to the Los Angeles Times, Lakers owners made two calls Saturday, the second was to D'Antoni.

By Sunday, hopes of getting Jackson and seeing another Championship parade down Figueroa were looking further away. Lakers were saying there was a "70-30" chance the Zen Master would be back with the team.

Instead of negotiating a deal with Jackson, the unanimous three felt there was a better choice for the team and worked out a deal with D'Antoni.

"After speaking with several excellent and well-respected coaching candidates, Dr. Buss, Jim and I all agreed that Mike was the right person at this time to lead the Lakers forward," Kupchak said in a statement Monday.

It is crazy to think the Lakers would pick D'Antoni over Jackson; after all, they are in the business of winning, and Jackson is one ring away from completing a set of a dozen championship titles.

Yeah, I can see why one of the most respected Franchises in history would pick a coach who has never taken a team to the NBA finals, does not coach defense and runs an offense that requires the players to shoot the ball in seven seconds or fewer. I guess that would work if your roster was full of young players in their prime. Let us see if the sprinting offense will not gas out on a team lead by aging men who hardly do any sprinting.

Email Romeo Gonzalez at [sports@lavalleystar.com](mailto:sports@lavalleystar.com)  
Send general comments to [valleystar@lavalleystar.com](mailto:valleystar@lavalleystar.com)

## NO POINTS IN THE PAINT



ANTWONE MERCER | VALLEY STAR

**TWO STRIKES** - Kyle Anderson of the San Diego City College Knights blocks Monarchs point guard Lance Bailey Thursday night at the Ventura College Tournament. Valley lost its season opener, falling short to San Diego City 63-69.

## VALLEY STUDENTS GET CHANCE TO RUN PAST INSTRUCTORS' HOOPS

**Valley College will have its first faculty-student basketball game this Friday.**

**JULIO FLORES**  
STAFF WRITER

Valley College's faculty will play the students at a free event Friday from 10 a.m. to noon. It will be held in the North Gym where free food, games and prizes will be given to attendees.

The Associated Student Union and the active club are sponsoring the event. All professors and employees are welcome to participate in the game and can sign up as late as 9 a.m. Friday morning.

"We have a good student team but still need faculty members to join the team," said Johniema Hababag, the president of the active club. "We want to create events that help our students keep active."

The concept of the faculty vs. students basketball game was brought up in a club meeting, and the members felt it would be a great way to promote being active. Last semester, the active club had a faculty vs. students softball game, which was well received. So, the decision was made to continue that theme with different sports.

This is the first year the ASU and the active club are hosts to this event, and they hope it will continue as an annual tradition. The winning team is playing for pride and bragging rights for the rest of the year.

"Anytime you have faculty and students working or playing together, it creates a wonderful learning environment at LAVC," said Jason Beaton, an assistant professor of media arts and broadcasting.

The active club does plan on having other sporting events where it would play students against faculty members at Valley.

"We played staff members last semester in softball, and they played well. So, we expect a good game," said Hababag.

Halftime will feature a 3-point shootout with prizes to encourage the public to participate.

"It will be fun, and it will enable the community to get together," Said Hababag.

There is currently no roster for the faculty, so any member and employees are encouraged to get in touch with Hababag at [LAVC.ActiveClub@gmail.com](mailto:LAVC.ActiveClub@gmail.com).

"We've been making an effort to get in touch with many professors and employees, and we've been giving them the opportunity to even sign up at the last moment on Friday," said Hababag.

Most of the student players' team has a full roster but Hababag encourages students to get in touch with her if they would like to play.

"This is a great way to get back at one of my professors by slam dunking on him," said marketing major Anthony Hopkins. "I need to sign up to play."



## MONARCHS FOOTBALL SEASON FILLED WITH HARD-FOUGHT LESSONS

STORY BY ANTWONE MERCER  
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**D**espite a tough 2-8 record for the season, the Monarchs ended on a positive note, defeating Southwest College Saturday 26-9 at Cougar Stadium.

The season's struggle came early for the young Monarchs team and new head coach Larry Kerr. The team lost the first seven games with rookie mistakes and penalties, according to Kerr.

"We have a group of tough guys," said Kerr after the team lost the season opener to the East Los Angeles Huskies, 40-13. "We took a tough loss ... but we will [be] back and ready to go."

However, the Monarchs did not make such a quick turn around with a disappointing series of upsets over the next six games. Valley College had problems scoring and never found the chemistry it needed to have a successful season.

After getting blown out 17-0 in the seventh game of the season, Oct. 20, against the Santa Monica Corsairs, the old "Valley Pride" spirit filled Monarch Stadium with a familiar buzz when the team won its homecoming game Oct. 27. In what would be the first victory of the season, the Monarchs defeated the Glendale College Vaqueros 57-18.

The following game, Valley lost a hard-fought battle against the West Los Angeles Wildcats 16-26 in Culver City.

Persevering, the green and gold came alive again a week later and made its last game a winning one, defeating the Southwest College Cougars at home 26-9.

"I'm extremely proud of the way we fought through the season," said Kerr. "We'll build on the last game and work on recruiting in offseason."

The Monarchs played through the fall with only six offensive linemen, and, according to Kerr, the Monarchs will be going back to the basics next season to build on their offensive and defensive lines, "because that's where it all starts."



**DODGING A BULLET** - Monarchs running back Antonio Bray dodges a Pierce College cornerback from getting within arm's reach of a tackle Oct. 13. The Monarchs lost the away game against the Brahmas, 24-6. Sophomore Bray made the American Pacific Conference First Team as a return specialist. RICHARD RAZAVI, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR



**LONG TIME COMING** - Cornerback Martin Hill jumps in celebration with his teammates during the winning game against Glendale College on Oct. 27. The Monarchs won their first game 57-18. DALE BECK, SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR | VALLEY STAR



**BUTTERFINGERS** - In the seventh game of the season, against Santa Monica College on Oct. 20, Valley College seized the opportunity to gain possession on a fumble made by the Corsairs in the first half. However, the Monarchs lost the game 17-0. LORAINA AMEDEN | VALLEY STAR



**FIGHT 'EM OFF** - In the fourth game of the season, against the Santa Barbara Vaqueros, defensive back Olefemi Odaibo misses a tackle on Monarchs running back Antonio Bray in Valley College's 14-6 loss Sept. 22. RAY BLUMHORST | VALLEY STAR



**GOING ALL THE WAY** - Running back Antonio Bray scores a touchdown in a game against the Pierce College Brahmas on Oct. 13. The touchdown was revoked due to a penalty on the play. Pierce beat the Monarchs 24-6. RICHARD RAZAVI, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR